

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 THESSA 00225 281424Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EPAE-00 OES-09 EB-08 COME-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-20 SP-02  
/064 W

-----123675 291020Z /10

R 291215Z JUL 78  
FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2980  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0225

E.O.11652:N/A  
TAGS: EAID, GR  
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE CLAIMS LARGE INDUSTRIES POSE GREATER  
THREAT SINCE EARTHQUAKE

1. COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF SCIENTIFIC  
ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF THESSALONIKI'S  
ENVIRONMENT HAS ISSUED STATEMENT THAT SINCE RECENT EARTHQUAKES  
LARGE INDUSTRIAL UNITS REPRESENT GREATER HAZARD TO THE  
CITY'S POPULATION. STATEMENT ASSERTS THAT  
ETHYL-HELLAS IS MOST DANGEROUS FROM STANDPOINT OF  
LEAD POISONING, WHILE ESSO-PAPPAS INSTALLATION  
REPRESENTS NUMBER ONE DANGER AS FAR AS  
POSSIBLE EXPLOSION AND SAINT GOBAIN FERTILIZER  
PLANT IS TOWN'S WORST POLLUTER. STATEMENT  
ATTEMPTS TO MAKE CASE THAT DANGER FROM THESE  
INSTALLATIONS GREATLY ENHANCED SINCE AREA NOW  
KNOWN TO BE EARTHQUAKE PRONE AND THAT SAFETY  
FEATURES FOR INSTALLATIONS DID NOT TAKE THIS  
INTO ACCOUNT. STATEMENT RECOMMENDS THAT ALL  
THREE PLANTS BE REMOVED FROM AREA AS SOON AS  
POSSIBLE. COMMITTEE STATEMENT WAS SUPPORTED BY  
LEFTISTS DEPUTIES IN GROUPS WHO HAVE BEEN ATTACK-  
ING ETHYL AND ESSO INSTALLATIONS FOR SOME TIME.  
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ACCORDING TO REPORTS ESSO-PAPPAS WORKERS HAVE  
THREATENED TO STRIKE NEXT WEEK IF MEASURES ARE NOT TAKEN  
TO REDUCE DANGER FROM AIR POLLUTION NEAR THEIR  
PLANTS.

2. RE OTHER EARTHQUAKE NEWS, CHORUS OF COMPLAINTS  
OVER GOVERNMENT DELAYS IN PROVIDING LOANS TO

HOME OWNERS AND BUSINESSES AND IN REPAIRING  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, SUCH AS SCHOOLS, IS RISING  
STEADILY. CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT'S SEISMO-  
LOGICAL NETWORK IN NORTHERN GREECE ALSO REMAINS A  
MAJOR THEME IN THE PRESS. THESE ATTACKS ON  
GOVERNMENT OFTEN POINT OUT THE NEGLECT THAT  
PROVINCES MUST ENDURE AT THE HANDS OF ATHENIAN  
BUREAUCRATS WHO OFTEN FAIL TO ACCARRY OUT ORDERS  
OF THE PRIME MINISTER. MEANWHILE, ONLY A SMALL  
NUMBER OF THESSALONIANS HAVE RESUMED THEIR  
NORMAL LIVING PATTERN DESPITE THE FACT THERE HAS  
BEEN NO STRONG TREMOR SINCE JULY 5. IT WAS  
REPORTED TWO DAYS AGO FROM ATHENS SEISMOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
THAT THERE HAVE BEEN 95 TREMORS 4 OR STRONGER  
ON THE RICHTER SCALE, SINCE MAY 8, A STATEMENT THAT HAS MADE THIS  
CITY'S INHABITANTS MORE FEARFUL THAT THERE IS MORE TO FOLLOW.  
ZACHARY

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NNN

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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMMITTEE CLAIMS LARGE INDUSTRIES POSE GREATER THREAT SINCE EARTHQUAKE  
**TAGS:** EAID, GR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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